

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 L-03 COME-00 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 STR-04 SP-02

USIA-06 AID-05 NSC-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 OMB-01 CEA-01

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O 082132Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1861

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, CA

SUBJ: U.S./CANADIAN MEAT PROGRAM

REF: STATE 297002

1. SUMMARY: CANADIAN DELEGATION HAS NOW BEEN INSTRUCTED TO RESUME MEAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH USG, WITH CAVEAT THAT RESULTING AGREEMENT MUST BE AD REFERENDUM TO MINISTERS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN ABSENCE OF AMBASSADOR FROM OTTAWA, AND AFTER CONSULTATIONS BY TELEPHONE WITH AMBASSADOR AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY KATZ, DCM MADE POINTS CONTAINED REFTEL TO ITC DEPUTY MINISTER STONER MID-DAY DECEMBER 7. STONER RESPONDED THAT HE PERSONALLY FAVORED BILATERAL NEGOTIATION ALONG LINES PROPOSED BY USG, AND THAT HE HAD SO ADVISED ITC MINISTER CHRETIEN. STONER FURTHER STATED THAT CHRETIEN CONCURRED, OUT OF CONSIDERATION FOR BROADER TRADE INTERESTS AND BECAUSE CANADA COULD EXPORT MORE MEAT UNDER VOLUNTARY RESTRAINTS THAN UNDER MANDATORY CONTROLS. STONER ADDED THAT STUMBLING BLOCK WAS AGRICULTURAL MINISTER WHELAN, BUT THAT CHRETIEN PLANNED TO DISCUSS SUBJECT WITH WHELAN LATER SAME DAY TO CONVINCE HIM OF DESIRABILITY OF RESUMING NEGOTIATIONS. STONER ALSO SUGGESTED THAT GOC MAY SEEK AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD ADDRESS NOT ONLY CANADIAN EXPORTS TO U.S.

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BUT ALSO U.S. EXPORTS TO CANADA.

3. LATE MORNING OF DECEMBER 8, STONER ADVISED DCM THAT CHRETIEN'S EFFORTS TO PERSUADE WHELAN HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL, AND THAT LATIMER HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO INFORM USG THAT HIS NEGOTIATING TEAM WILL RETURN TO WASHINGTON TO NEGOTIATE ALONG LINES PROPOSED BY USG. STONER INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT IN ORDER TO GET WHELAN'S AGREEMENT TO RESUMING NEGOTIATIONS, TEAM MUST REFER ANY ARRANGEMENT TO MINISTERS FOR FINAL APPROVAL. STONER IMPLIED THAT HE DID NOT CONSIDER THIS A MAJOR OBSTACLE TO FINAL AGREEMENT.

4. SHANNON OF EXTAFF TOLD EMBASSY AGRATT IN SEPARATE CONFERSATION THAT "MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCK" HAD BEEN OVERCOME AND THAT CANADIAN NEGOTIATORS EXPECT TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON LATE THIS WEEK.
ENDERS

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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